

# China building world's highest altitude airport near Tibet

BEIJING, Aug 4:

China is building the world's highest altitude civilian airport close to Tibet as part of a plan to develop infrastructure in the strategic Himalayan region.

The 4,411-metre-high Daocheng Yading Airport is under construction in Garzi Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture in Sichuan province, state-run Xinhua news agency reported.

It will surpass the Bangda Airport in Qamdo Prefecture in southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region which has an elevation of 4,334 metres above sea level.

So far, China has built five airports at Gonggar, Lhasa, Bangda, Xigaze and Ngari in Tibet Autonomous Region.

The rapid development of air infrastructure in Tibet coupled with rail and road development raised concerns in India as it provides massive advantage to China to move its troops and equipment overcoming the geographical problems in the remote region of the world.

Meanwhile, the Bangda Airport, which was closed for repairs, is expected to resume operations tomorrow.

The airfield closed on June 22 so that its 19-year-old runway could be repaired, the Tibet branch of the Civil Aviation Administration said.

The airport has two routes in service, one linking Qamdo and Lhasa, capital of Tibet, and another linking Qamdo and Chengdu, capital of southwest China's Sichuan Province.

Its record high altitude airport will eventually be topped by the Daocheng Yading Airport, which is under construction, the report said. (PTI)

# E-filing of IT returns crosses one-crore mark

NEW DELHI, Aug 4:

The e-filing of income tax returns has crossed the one crore mark with the maximum of such filings done by the salaried class of taxpayers.

In a latest data released by the Central Processing Centre (CPC) of the IT department based in Bangalore, a total of 1,03,21,775 e-returns were filed by taxpayers till July 31, which is quite less than the over 2 crore e-filing numbers filed during the financial year 2012-13.

The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), the administrative authority of the Income Tax department, has recently enhanced the last date for filing of IT returns, both manual and e-filed, to August 5 for the 2013-14 fiscal.

A total of 57,81,252 people under the salaried class filed their e-returns till July 31 through the Internet which is also less than the over 64 lakh figure filed by salaried taxpayers during the same period last year.

"The Income Tax department and the CBDT are aiming to encourage more and more taxpayers to file online returns. These figures are expected to rise drastically by August 5," a senior IT officer said.

The department's web based servers, according to the official data, received a peak rate of 2,303 returns per minute during the current filing spree even as the tax return filing season ends tomorrow.

A special team of the department is continuously monitoring the web portals and information technology parameters of the official e-filing website of the IT department— <https://incometaxindiaefiling.gov.in>.

Electronic filing has been made mandatory for assessee having net taxable above Rs five lakh from this year. (PTI)

# SC to deliver verdict on Abu Salem plea today

NEW DELHI, Aug 4:

The Supreme Court will tomorrow pronounce its verdict on gangster Abu Salem's plea for quashing trials against him in various cases after Portugal's apex court terminated his extradition to India for "violation" of deportation rules by authorities here.

A bench headed by Chief Justice P Sathasivam had reserved the verdict on July 9 saying it would pass order after considering CBI's submission that the agency is ready to drop certain charges against 45-year-old Salem under TADA and Explosive Substances Act in view of its commitment to Portuguese government at the time of his extradition that he shall not be awarded death penalty or detained in custody for more than 25 years if found guilty.

Attorney General G E Vahanvani had said Government was committed to its assurance given to the Portuguese court and sought the apex court's permission to drop the additional charges framed against Salem by the trial court.

The agency sought withdrawal of charges under section 5 and 6 of TADA and sections 4(b) and 5 of the Explosive Substances Act.

The Supreme Court had stayed the trial after Salem approached the apex court against the TADA court's order of January 31, rejecting his plea for closure of his trial.

He had filed the application after the Portugal Supreme Court upheld the order of a lower court there, terminating his extradition for "violation" of deportation rules by Indian authorities.

At the time of Salem's extradition, India had assured Portugal that no charges entailing death penalty or imprisonment of more than 25 years would be pressed against him, but such charges were later brought in.

Salem is currently lodged in Arthur Road Jail in Mumbai. Following the Portugal SC's order, he had appealed to the TADA court, saying that the trial against him should be closed.

Salem then filed a petition in the high court at Lisbon, alleging violation of the Rule of Speciality. In the ruling on September 19 last year, the Lisbon court said there had been a breach of the undertaking given by India.

Salem and his then companion, actress Monica Bedi, were extradited to India on November 11, 2005, after a marathon legal process lasting three years. (PTI)

# Playing with smartphones hinder toddler's brain development

WASHINGTON, Aug 4:

Parents, note! Better keep your smartphone away from the reach of your kids.

Toddlers who play with smartphones are at an increased risk of impeding their brain development, experts have warned.

According to a new study, 25 per cent of kids as old as two years old and younger have their own smartphones, which parents say is used as a learning tool for their kids, 'CBS News' reported.

However, experts say it is too young for children to be utilising this type of technology and that the kids are not learning but are just being given the phone as a distraction.

Experts are concerned because this type of smartphone use, at such a young age, can impede early development in areas that would impact the child for the rest of his lives.

Since childhood is a time for serious brain development, children could face problems with their basic social, verbal and learning skills.

Psychiatrist Gail Saltz told the "CBS This Morning: Saturday" that this type of smartphone use could actually hurt the child and that "this is really for babysitting purposes or the fear that your child can't be bored."

"These years are the years that you need to be developing vocabulary, which means speaking and listening, so if you're engaged in a gadget, you're really minimising that," she said. (PTI)

# Don't file RTI to know result details: UPSC to pre qualifiers

NEW DELHI, Aug 4:

The Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) has advised successful candidates of civil services (preliminary) examination not to file RTI applications to know the details of their results until the whole process of selection gets over.

The UPSC's directive will have a bearing on about 16,000 candidates who have qualified this year's Civil Services (Preliminary) test results which were made available late last night.

In a press statement, the Commission has advised the qualifiers not to file RTI applications seeking details of their marks and answer keys until the civil services exam is completed.

"Candidates are also informed that marks, cut off marks and answer keys of Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination 2013 will be provided to them only after entire process of the Civil Services Examination is over i.e. After the declaration of final result. "No application under RTI

act, 2005 or otherwise will be entertained in this regard," it said.

The UPSC conducts the prestigious test to select officers for Indian Administrative Service (IAS), Indian Police Service (IPS) and Indian Foreign Service, among other services.

About 16,000 candidates have qualified the prelims test, according to the list containing roll numbers of successful candidates put up on the UPSC website— [www.upsc.gov.in](http://www.upsc.gov.in).

The UPSC also puts the results of successful candidates of civil services exams (including preliminary, mains and interview) on its website once the test is over.

The marks of candidates who cleared the three-stage test held last year along with those who did not qualify the civil services (mains) examination 2012 are available on the UPSC website.

Those who have qualified this year's pre test, which was held on May 26, have also been told to apply online at the Commission's website again in

the Detailed Application Form (DAF) for the civil services (Mains) examination.

After submitting the duly filled DAF online, the candidates are required to take out its printout and send its printed copy duly signed by him or her along with all relevant documents including the prescribed fees, wherever applicable, to the Commission, the statement said.

The detailed instruction to fill in the DAF and procedure for sending it to the Commission along other important details is available on the UPSC portal.

"It can also be delivered at Union Public Service Commission counter by hand till September 18, 2013 (5.00 PM)," it said.

The UPSC have a facilitation counter near the examination Hall Building in its campus.

Candidates may obtain any information or clarification regarding their result on all working days between 10.00 AM to 5.00 PM, in person or on Tel No 011-23385271, 011-23098543 or 011-23381125 from the facilitation counter. (PTI)

# 'Human activities increasing risk of calamities in Kedarnath'

NEW DELHI, Aug 4:

Increasing human activities are augmenting the risk of natural disasters in the ecologically sensitive region of Kedarnath which was washed away by floods triggered by cloudburst in June, a latest study claims.

A team of scientists from the prestigious Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology has warned that rise in human activities around the area like pilgrimage and tourism would increase the risk of such disasters occurring in future.

Kedarnath is encircled by channels of Mandakini and Saraswati rivers which meet near the town.

The study led by scientist D P Dobhal, well-known for his work on Himalayan glaciers, says overcrowding of people and constructions have obstructed the natural flow of Saraswati river which now flows just behind Kedarnath town.

Similarly on down-stream near Rambara and Gaurikund, houses were constructed on the loose soil making them prone to natural disasters and landslides, it said.

Dobhal, who has been named in the Time magazine list of 'Heroes of Himalayas' in 2007, said heavy rains on June 16 evening flooded the catch-

ment area of Saraswati and Dudh Ganga resulting in overflowing of channels which triggered erosion and subsequent silting up in the rivers.

This resulted in huge volumes of water along with loose soil and debris from glacial moraines forming a slush which moved with unprecedented energy towards Kedarnath town and washed off its upper parts where Sankaracharya samadhi, Jal Nigam guest house and Bharat Seva Sangh Ashram are located.

"While reconstruction efforts are going on in the region, government must ensure that construction should take place away from the temple at a safe location. Strict environment guidelines should be followed and a database of pilgrims climbing towards temple should be maintained to avoid such mis-happenings," Dobhal told.

The study, co-authored by Anil Gupta, Manish Mehta and D D Khandelwal, says another factor was the collapse of Chorabari Lake because of the torrential rains on June 17 which contributed to the floods and washed away regions like Gaurikund, Sonprayag and Phata.

The findings, published in the latest edition of 'Current Science', say that the collapse of the lake resulted from heavy downpour between June 15 and 17.

Heavy rains caused the snow-covered right basin of the Chorabari glacier to melt rapidly which resulted in the accumulation of water in Gandhi Sarovar, it said.

The increase in the water levels and with no outlet, the lake was breached causing floods in the lower regions of Kedarnath.

The area faced maximum brunt of the floods and landslides but the eighth century temple and the sanctum sanctorum, however, are safe.

Prayers at the shrine had come to a halt after the floods which caused massive damage to life and property especially in Rudraprayag, Chamoli, Uttarkashi and Pithoragarh districts.

Though prayers will start at the shrine from September 11, the Char dham yatra will not be resumed before September 30, which is the deadline set by the state government for road restoration work in Kedar ghati, an onerous task considering vagaries of the weather.

The torrential rains and subsequent floods in Garhwal region on June 16 had claimed 560 lives and left thousands missing. (PTI)

# Oxford dictionaries going bilingual

KOLKATA, Aug 4:

With internet making print dictionaries redundant, Oxford University Press is now focusing on bilingual dictionaries and mobile applications to maintain its presence in the market.

"Though our print dictionaries continue to sell in India but there has been a slowdown in demand. However, the demand for our bilingual dictionaries has been growing at the rate of 20-25 per cent per year," Ranjan Kaul, Managing Director of Oxford University Press India, told here.

The publishers of the world's most definitive work on English already have bilingual dictionaries in Hindi, Marathi, Odia, Kannada, Gujarati and Telugu while their Bengali one was launched here recently.

"We are now trying to add more Indian languages on the list like Malayalam, Punjabi, Assamese, etc., as the aspiration to learn English is growing in smaller towns and cities all over the country," Kaul said.

All these dictionaries are characterised by the Oxford hallmark of authoritative information, detailed attention to grammar and usage besides incorporating 'Indian English'.

Kaul said the new dictionaries are meant as a self-learning tool to learn English for various purposes including better employment opportunities.

"It is not only for finding the meaning of a word but also for improving your language skills for everyday use," he said, adding that they are focusing on the usage of words in practical

life. Admitting that digitisation has taken a toll on the sale of its classic English dictionaries in metros, Kaul said that to stay in sync with the market they are planning to launch various applications for mobile devices including tablets.

"We are trying to understand what type of digital format will work here in India with various devices. After that our bilingual works can also be made available in digital format," the publisher said.

The first Oxford English Dictionary was out in 1884.

The publishers have already indicated that they will not go for another print edition due to falling sales with the rise of digitisation. (PTI)

# Govt likely to announce 10 per cent DA hike next month

NEW DELHI, Aug 4:

The Government is likely to announce a hike in dearness allowance to 90 per cent from existing 80 per cent in September, benefiting about 50 lakh Central employees and 30 lakh pensioners ahead of the festival season.

According to official sources, the preliminary assessment suggests that dearness allowance hike will be in the range of 10-11 per cent and would be effective from July 1 this year.

He said the exact number could be calculated only when the revised all India Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (CPI-IW) for the month of June will be released on August 30.

According to the provisional

data released by Government on July 31, the retail inflation for factory workers for the month of June stood at 11.06 per cent, higher than 10.68 per cent in May this year.

As per the practise, the Government uses CPI-IW data for past 12 month or a year to arrive at a number for the purpose of any DA hike. Thus, the retail inflation for industrial workers between July, 2012 to June 2013 would be used to take final call on the matter.

"It would be around 10 per cent this time and would be announced in September," the Confederation of Central Government Employees Secretary General K K N Kutty said.

"Besides, raising DA to 90 per cent, the government should merge 50 per cent of the

allowance with the basic pay as was our demand. DA breached 50 per cent benchmark long ago", he said.

As per the practise, the DA is merged with basic pay when it breaches the 50 per cent mark. DA merger helps employees as their other allowances are paid as a proportion of basic pay.

Kutty said, "This DA hike won't help much as actual rise in the cost of living is 171 per cent since January 1, 2011."

There would be a double digit hike in DA after about three years. It was last in September, 2010 that the Government had announced a hike of 10 per cent to be given with effect from July 1, 2010.

DA was hiked to 80 per cent from 72 per cent in April, 2013, effective from January 1, this year. (PTI)

# Create mechanism for implementing orders: Court to Delhi, cops

NEW DELHI, Aug 4:

A local court has asked the city government and Delhi Police to create a mechanism for ensuring implementation and compliance of judicial orders passed against erring officials and also give it "transparent and prompt" feedback.

The court's order came while dealing with a case in which a senior citizen was robbed and found dead after he went missing and no action was taken by the police. The man was cremated as unclaimed despite the fact that a missing person's complaint was already lodged.

The court said the feedback of authorities on the action taken against erring officials has to be "transparent and prompt" so that it could bring some difference at the ground level.

"It is only this step which will help in bringing about professionalism and seriousness in the investigating agency at the lower rung which presently appears to be lacking to a large extent," Additional Sessions Judge Kamini Lau said.

"It is desirable for the State i.e. GNCT of Delhi and also for the Commissioner of Police, Delhi to create or constitute a cell/mechanism to secure implementation and compliance

of the orders passed by the courts against the erring officers from time to time along with an effective feedback mechanism," the judge said.

While dealing with the case, the court acquitted accused Sunil of the charges of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, hurting by giving poison, kidnapping with intent to wrongfully confine a person, theft and dishonestly receiving stolen property.

The court expressed unhappiness that there was a long delay in the registration of an FIR in the case. It said that the victim had gone missing on June 16 last year and the FIR was lodged after a delay of 16 days on July 2.

According to police, on June 16, 2012, 65-year-old Wilson Samuel, who had lost his way, was befriended by Sunil who gave the victim biscuits mixed with stupefying substance in a bus at Kingsway Camp here.

Samuel felt dizzy and the accused took him to a park near Azadpur Mandi where he robbed him of his mobile phone, ring, wrist watch and purse and left the spot leaving the victim lying in the park.

When the victim did not return home, his family lodged a missing complaint at Mukherjee Nagar police station. On June 19, Samuel was found unconscious in Azadpur area which comes under Adarsh Nagar police station and on being shifted to a hospital he was declared dead.

After postmortem, the body was cremated as unknown on June 28.

The court said both the police stations fall within the same sub-division, still the officials could not trace out the whereabouts of the dead person though at one police station his missing complaint was already registered.

The court said it was "extremely shocking" that despite the body being discovered in the area of Adarsh Nagar police station and the information regarding the deceased being available with Mukherjee Nagar police station, the officials of Mukherjee Nagar police station were not in a position to trace out and identify the victim.

"This is reflective of gross police apathy and casualness of those investigating the case," the court said.

It said even after the FIR was lodged, the probe was only a "cover-up" and this kind of an approach shakes the faith of people in the institution. (PTI)

# MAJOR GENERAL ARMY SERVICE CORPS HEADQUARTERS NORTHERN COMMAND UDHAMPUR ARMY SERVICE CORPS CONTRACTS FOR SUPPLY OF BRANDED WHEAT ATTA WHOLE MEAL, SUJI, FLOUR AND DALIA FOR THE PERIOD FROM 01 SEP 2013 TO 31 MAR 2014

## TENDER NOTICE

1. SEALED TENDERS are invited from registered ASC Wheat Atta Whole Meal contractors/firms for supply of Branded Wheat Atta Whole Meal, Suji, Flour and Dalia at various stations of Northern Command for conclusion of annual contract at Headquarters Northern Command, Udhampur by MG ASC Northern Command for the period from 01 Sep 2013 to 31 Mar 2014.

2. The approximate requirement of Branded Wheat Atta Whole Meal, Suji, Flour and Dalia for various stations of Northern Command is given below. The demands are approximate requirements and these quantities may change at any stage at the discretion of Competent Financial Authority (CFA)/ Executive Officer:-

Ser No.	Name of Station	Approximate Requirement in Metric Tons/Kgs				Earnest Money	Tender Fees
		Atta	Suji	Flour	Dalia		
a)	FSD BD Bari	1389.478	12.986	6.492	0.964	13,48,300.00	500.00
b)	FSD Srinagar	844.102	24.986	21.170	1.298	9,11,000.00	500.00
c)	FSD Baramulla	748.510	20.999	16.595	0.704	8,08,000.00	500.00
d)	FSD Kupwara	687.868	19.042	9.505	0.462	7,44,300.00	500.00
e)	FSD Khanabal	507.658	12.250	8.890	0.449	5,45,500.00	500.00
f)	FSD Pattan	279.720	6.840	3.420	0.086	2,99,000.00	250.00
g)	FSD Chowkibal	481.551	12.513	6.048	0.325	5,21,000.00	500.00
h)	FSD Bandipur	442.694	9.823	4.914	0.408	4,72,800.00	250.00
j)	FSD Udhampur	590.520	10.000	11.000	1.500	6,05,600.00	500.00
k)	FSD Rajouri	683.642	14.924	7.462	0.570	7,10,600.00	500.00
l)	FSD Akhnor	669.860	16.244	8.123	0.647	6,84,000.00	500.00
m)	FSD Narian	429.566	10.498	5.249	0.327	4,45,800.00	250.00
n)	FSD Mendhar	403.966	7.996	3.981	0.244	4,24,200.00	250.00
o)	FSD Poonch	489.878	13.208	6.604	0.358	5,20,800.00	500.00
p)	FSD Dharmund	444.149	13.097	6.549	0.313	4,67,000.00	250.00
q)	FSD Kumbathang 508ASC Bn	601.988	9.000	33.000	0.750	6,21,400.00	500.00
r)	FSD Leh	976.414	13.890	42.000	1.650	10,55,000.00	500.00
s)	FSD Karu	528.774	6.750	42.000	1.125	5,93,600.00	500.00

3. The Schedule of tendering for the annual contracts for 2013-14 will be as follows:-

a) 17 Aug 2013 - Eighth Call (Seventh Re-tender),	b) 03 Sep 2013 - Ninth Call (Eighth Re-tender)
c) 13 Sep 2013 - Tenth Call (Ninth Re-tender),	d) 24 Sep 2013 - Eleventh Call (Tenth Re-tender)

4. Tender forms will be issued to only those Contractors / Firms whose name is borne on the approved list of ASC Contractors for supply of Wheat Atta Whole Meal, Suji, Flour and Dalia to the Army. Tender forms can be obtained from the office of the MG ASC, HQ Northern Command up to 1200 hours ten days prior to the stipulated date of opening tender on production of Military Receivable Order/Postal Order as per details given above for each tender form in favour of PCDA Northern Command, Jammu. Tenders will be opened at 1200 hours on date of tendering mentioned above at HQ Northern Command Udhampur (J&K). Sale of tenders will stop four days prior to opening of tender.

5. In case the day of opening of tender happens to be holiday, the tender will automatically be opened on next working day.

6. FDRs on account of Earnest Money of a Scheduled Bank including the State Bank of India and its subsidiaries approved under the Bank Guarantee Scheme will be made, valid for a minimum period of 90 days from the date of opening of tenders. No FDR on account of Earnest Money will be accepted unless the same is discharged by the contractors/firms duly affixed with the revenue stamp and official seal of the contractors/firms. FDRs will be made in the name of MG ASC Northern Command.

7. Contractors/Firms applying for tender forms for each station should attach tender fee along with the tender application. Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) will be deposited on the day of opening of tender. In case EMD is not deposited on the scheduled date of opening of tender, the tenders will be rejected.

8. Detailed instructions will be issued to the contractors/firms at the time of collection of tenders. All contractors/firm are advised to report to the office of MG ASC Northern Command for collection of tender forms at least two days in advance in their own interest and adhere to given instructions.

9. Photographs of both Contractor and General Power of Attorney holder must be affixed with the General Power of Attorney on the affidavit for Rs. 100/-. Tender will be issued to those representatives of the firm only who produce the latest General Power of Attorney.

10. The Executive Officer reserves to himself the right of any amendment, cancellation and changes to the tender notice in whole or in part without assigning any reasons. Addition/deletion of any station can be made subject to orders of CFA/Executive Officer.

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